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The Ongoing Search for Nessie
http://www.nessie.co.uk/nessie/search.html
Searching for Nessie
Although Nessie was sighted as far back as the 6th century a.d. it is modern day sightings that have captured the public imagination.
ani
In the early part of the 1930's a new road was built around Loch Ness which in turn brought in a spate of new sightings from road users sightseers. Up until this time stories of the monster circulated more within the local community but talk of other sightings were spreadir outwith the village.
The first recorded sighting of Nessie on land was made by Mr Spicer a his wife, on July 22nd 1933, who were driving down the road between the Loch Ness side villages of Dores and Inverfarigaig. They caught sight of a large cumbersome animal crossing the road ahead, which w some 20 yards from the water. They first saw a long neck, forming a number of arches, a little thicker than a elephant's trunk and a huge lumbering body heading towards the Loch. It disappered into the bush out of sight. After this sighting reports flooded in and interest grew an international scale. Speculators offered huge prizes for the anima dead or alive. Circus owner Bertram Mills promised a sum of £20,000

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The Ongoing Search for Nessie
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any man who could bring the creature alive to his circus.
Probably one of the first photographs to be taken of the monster was snapped by a British Aluminium Company worker, Mr Hugh Gray, near Foyers. It showed a writhing creature creating a considerable disturbance on the surface of the Loch. He only sav part of the animal which he estimated to be around 40 ft long, which included a thick rounded back and also a muscular looking tail.

In December of the same year a hippo's foot had been planted by a prankster and all was taken seriously until officials finally uncover the truth. This had an affect on future reports of sightings, as they were taken less seriously. But still reported sightings were becoming increasingly common and more intriging.
On the 5th of January, 1934, a motorcyclist almost collided with the monster as he was returning home from Inverness. It was around 1a.m and was bright due to the moonlight. As Mr Grant approached Abriacha on the north-eastern shore of the Loch he saw a large shape loom on 1 right side of the road. As he approached the object he saw a small hea attached to a long neck. The animal saw Grant and promptly crossed t road back down to the Loch. Mr Grant, by this time, had jumped off his motorbike and followed the path it took to the Loch only to see the rippling water where the creature had entered. In April, 1934 the most famous photograph was obtained by a London surgeon as he heading towards Inverness along the new road.
The Surgeon's picture. This photograph has since provec

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The Ongoing Search for Nessie
This event encouraged more people to
sightings.
but was
http://www.nessie.co.uk/nessie/search.html
come forward with their tales
An event on the 5th of June, 1934 was considered to be of importance not widely publicised. It involved a young girl from the Fort Augustus area who was employed as a maid in a large house close to abbey. It was about 6:30 a.m., the maid was looking out of a window down the Loch. She saw on the shore, one of the biggest animals she had seen in her life, at a range of about 200 yards. Her description w similar to those of others, giraffe like neck, small head, skin like an elephant and two very short fore legs or flippers. She watched it for around 20 mins when it re-entered the water and disappeared.
There were a number of privately funded investigations, most of whi were not successful, which took place in the same year. There was on such expedition which did have a degree of success. It was led by a S Edward Mountain in July, 1934. During that period of research and investigation he obtained five still pictures of the monster, he had observed the monster, along with members of his team, and had actua filmed the monster. It was probably because the expedition was SO W funded that a result was most likely and that a poorly funded investigation would be doomed to failure.
control of the
secured. This
As the threat of war with Germany grew stronger, Nessie and all the sightings were furthest things from peoples minds, but there were SI recorded sightings and even a number of
photographs were taken. During the war
Loch Ness was in
Navy and

the loch area was
did not stc
the monster from making itself known. In
May, 1943, a Mr C.B. Farrel of the Royal
Observer Corps was on duty to warn of
incoming enemy bombers but instead
observed the movements of the monster at
distance of 250 yards. He saw 20-30 ft o
the monster's body and the neck which was
approximately 4-5ft above the surface of
the water. The eyes, he explained, were
a
large and the body of the monster appeared to have a 'fin'. It finally
submerged without a
movement on the water.

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30th April 1997
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The Ongoing Search for Nessie
http://www.nessie.co.uk/nessie/search2.html
When the war was over and up until the late '50's sightings of Nessie
continued as people got back onto the road with their motorcars on t
Loch side road. The monster was still a local source of interest but
remained the complete enigma.
In 1951 a new photograph appeared which to some confirmed the
existence of the monster. On the 14th of July at around 6:30 a.m. Mr
Lachlan Stewart, a woodcutter employed by the forestry commission,
saw something large moving out on the Loch. With a friend he ran to 1
waters edge and there about 50 yards away they saw three humps, eac
about 5 ft long moving at fast speed. Mr Stewart, who had picked up a
small camera before leaving his house, took this photograph. Seconds
an
later a small head and long neck
appeared in front of the first
hump then the monster turned
out towards the centre of the
Loch and with a lot of splashing
swam off and sinking head first
300 yards offshore, disappeared
Mr Stewart estimated the length
of head and neck to be 6 ft, and

then 15-20 ft behind the last hump he noticed a commotion in the water suggesting the movement of the tail.
In December 1954 another 'sighting' was made by a Peterhead fishing drifter called 'Rival III'. The vessel captured unusual graphical recording of a large object at a depth of around 480 ft 100 ft or so above the bottom which kept pace with the boa for half a mile then disappeared.
Another eyewitness account happened in October 1955, by Colonel Patrick Grant of Knockie Estate. He was travelling from Fort Augustu to Invermoriston and nearing Inchnacardoch Bay he saw a great commotion in the water between 100-200 yards from the road. He brought his car to a stop and could see a black object above the surfa 10 or 15 ft long. In less than a minute the object suddenly started swimming eastwards, parallel with the shore and very near the surfa though submerged. Moving at great speed it travelled 200-300 yards a disappeared completely.

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The Ongoing Search for Nessie
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1955 brought one of the most intriguing photograph ever taken. Peter Macnab from Aryshire was having having a holiday in the Highlands an was preparing to take a photograph of Urquhart Castle. His attention was drawn to his left where he saw an enormous dark animal with tw humps. This is the photograph he took.
Spring 1958. The proprietor of The Foyers Hotel, Mr Hugh Rowand, his wife and two friends were seated in their garden overlooking Loc Ness when his eye caught a stationary fin shaped object in the water near Sand Point. A few seconds elapsed and the object sprang into lif and shot across the Loch towards Drumnadrochit. Mr Rowand guessed speed to be in the region of 20-25 knots.
A Mr H.L. Cockrell of Dumfries, Scotland, had a remarkable experience with the monster in the Autumn of 1958 when he met it in his canoe the Loch. Mr Cockrell being an expert seaman and familiar with small crafts had developed a waterproof camera with flash equipment whic he used from his canoe. The camera was strapped to his head like a C

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The Ongoing Search for Nessie
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miner's lamp and
movement of his
activated by the
mouth which
left his hands free to paddle. He
was boating about dawn on the
Loch when something appeared
about 50 yards away. It looked
like it kad a large flat head 4 or
5 feet long and about 3 feet to
the rear of this he noticed
another thin line, all very low in
the water. He swung round to
approach what ever it was and to
his great horror it turned
towards him. He took a shot with
his camera and kept moving towards it and to his relief the creature turned to another direction. When the film was developed although i showed the Loch to be calm, there was a great deal of disturbance on part of the surface of the water.
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The Ongoing Search for Nessie
http://www.nessie.co.uk/nessie/search3.html
The day after Mr Cockrell's sighting the monster was seen by a Mr Brown and his wife from Invergordon in the same place but closer to shore. They described it as three thick black humps moving through t water with 50 ft ahead of the humps a movement which seemed to suggest a head.
A member of the Northern Naturalists Organisations, Mr Peter O'Conn from Gateshead, Durham had a sighting on the 24th May, 1960. From the garden of the Foyers Hotel he and a number of other people saw the creature at around 4 o'clock in the afternoon. At first he thought it v a rowing boat about 200 yards from the Foyers shore but using his fi glasses he could see a brown coloured object which was slowly sinkir
Mr O'Connor encountered the
monster yet again 3 days later on
the 27th of May, 1960. Between 6
and 6:30 a.m. he went for a walk
along the shore beside Foyers Bay
and the monster glided into view
around the headland. He waded into
the water up to his waist to get a
closer view. It features were sma

and sheep-like and a very, very
strong neck. It's skin appeared
smooth, very like a seal. He turned
to yell to his companion and then
turned back and took this
photograph, to the right, as it
disappeared into the turbulence
had created.
Generally regarded to be the first major scientifically planned
expedition of its kind to visit the Loch was conducted on the 27th Ju
to 23rd July 1960 by The Universities (Oxford and Cambridge)
Expedition. The purpose being to make a general study of Loch Ness,
paying particular attention to the possible existance of the Loch Nes
Monster. Participant in the expedition numbered 30 volunteer graduat
and under graduates who used cameras and an echo sounder mounted or
boat. They did encounter one visual sighting of what appeared to be tl
monsters back moving through the water. Another sighting they had v
of an object that continuously changed shape on the surface of the
water. Numerous echo soundings were taken which were of unusual
character.

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The Ongoing Search for Nessie
http://www.nessie.co.uk/nessie/search3.html
A sighting was reported on 7th August 1960 by a witness who wished
remain anonymous. The witness was driving south-westerly along the
main road towards Abriachan pier when he noticed a small yacht
travelling up the Loch. He then realised there were two V wakes
parallel to one another. The closest of the two wakes came from the
yacht and the second appeared to be caused by something just under t
water. The object surfaced and looked just like a midget submarine
without its periscope. The colour was greenish black, about the size
the yacht, which was in fact 48ft by 10 ft.
Going on a number of years, this sighting occured on the 13th July 19
by Paul H. Biermasz who was on holiday in the Loch Ness area. This is
Biermaszs' own account of his sighting. In July 1979 I had a Nessie
sighting that goes as follows :
I was driving from the camp site where I was staying at Invermorist
north to Inverness on the main road when a few miles after Urquhart
Bay, passing a layby with a good Loch view, I saw 'It'. 'It' was at a
distance of some 200-300 metres, shaped like an upside-down (black)
rowing boat, speeding away from the shore. The speed was remarkable
because of the wave 'it' produced. Other people must have seen 'it', a
sailing boat crew might have spotted something as 'it' was coming t
way. A touring bus was in front of me and crossed the road to pull in
the layby. Passengers in the rear of the bus were pointing at the Loch
also. Everything happened in seconds. The time of this sighting was
between 10 and 11 a.m.. The sky was cloudy but the Loch could be
clearly seen and the wind was very low. Back in Holland the story of
sighting was not believed so I have kept quiet about until now.
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Drawings and Opinions
http://www.nessie.co.uk/nessie/drawings.html
Drawings and Opinions
Below you will find other evidence which people have put foward ove
the years. This includes drawings, sketches and facts as told by
themselves.
very large object.
This drawing shows various body shapes
sketched by different observers.
Statistics : In 20% of sighting a back or body
is reported as distinct from the appearance
humps, and the most common description is
that of 'an upturned boat', but others have sai
: "It looked like an elephants back
about 4ft high and 10-12ft in length
egg-shaped body
stood
an
seen end on there is a
distinct angle at apex of back
a long dark
body like a gigantic eel 25ft in length and
5ft in diameter.' description such
as these ar
not very specific and the best that can be sai
for them is that the majority refer to some
This one is an impression of the
monster based on average
statistics showing the 2 humps
most commonly reported.
40 ft overall
Statistics : "Humps" appear in no
less of 45% of sightings, but these must be sub-divided because the
number of humps vary in quite an extraordinary manner.
From amongs
45 separate statements, 8 refer to 1 hump, 19 to 2 humps, 9 to 3 hump
and the remainder to a varied number of humps or 'coils' up to a coun
total of 12. Generally speaking, there appear to be 3 basic triangular
humps, the largest in the middle, standing 3 to 4ft above the surface,
5-6ft inlength at the waterline, and separated by 6-8ft of clear wate
from the other 2 humps. This adds up to an overall visible length of
30ft or so. In all the hundred reports no one has ever referred to a hu
a fin. Probably the only certain thing about them is that they are
most peculiar, and a complete stumbling block to science.
as

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Drawings and Opinions
http://www.nessie.co.uk/nessie/drawings.html
ESTIMATED LENGTH 351
QAC 12 FT WIDE
>> OG TRI..?
v C
HAL
This is a drawing of the animal
described by Mr and Mrs Spicer seen
crossing the road near Dores in
1933.
On the 22nd of July 1933 a most
extraordinary thing happened, so
extraordinary it taxed the
limagination of even the most
confirmed believers. Driving down the narrow road, early one morning between the village of Dores and Inverfarigaig, Mr Spicer and his wife saw 'a most extraordinary form of animal' crossing the road ahead ; which at this point lay some 20 yards from the water. First a long ne appeared, undulating rapidly, forming a number of arches. It was a li thicker than an elephants trunk and stretched the width of the road, a behind it a huge ponderous body, lurched againly towards the Loch. In seconds it crossed the road, and disappeared through the bushes out sight. The Spicers ; at first some 200 yards distant, accelerated towards it, but when they arrived there was nothing to see, just a gal in the undergrowth through which the creature must of passed. They heard no splash, but the noise of the car engine might well of drowne it ; neither did they see any limbs, but the creature's lower extremil were obscured by a dip in the road, which at this place was some 10-12ft in width. The animals body was about 4ft high and together with the neck, about 25ft in length. Staggered and curiously repelledl what they had seen the Spicers withstood the barrage of questions levelled at them after the event by various interested people.
This is a drawing of the animal
seen by Mr Grant near
Abriachan, on the 5th of
January 1934.
For more details of this
sighting see 'Searching for
Nessie'
GHALL SHAKE
LLENGTH 15-20 FT
6 FT.

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Drawings and Opinions
MAN SKETC
http://www.nessie.co.uk/nessie/drawings.html
This sketch was done by a Mrs

Moir of Inverness. The sighting
occured in October 1936. Mrs
Moirs statement is as follows :
.liv FT
the Monster". We all
There, before us
One October afternoon a friend
took my sister, mother-in-law,
my young daughter and myself for a little trip by car to Foyers. On th
return journey, at a place where the road runs very close to the Loch,
about 3 miles from Foyers, my sister suddenly shouted, "Look, there's
got out of the car and ran to the waters edge.
at a distance of 1/3 of the width of the Loch away
from us was this wonderful creature. It was a perfect view, if we had
camera the most convincing picture of the Monster ever taken could
have been obtained, but alas! we had neither camera or binoculars. It
was a perfect setting. There were three distinct humps, a long slende
neck ending in a small head, and the overall length appeared to be 301
approximately. I could see no details of eyes, mouth etc. but the outl
was all beautifully clear the three humps, head and neck. The middle
hump was the highest, the one behind the neck was smaller and the in
between size was at the back, sloping in a graceful line down to, and
under, the water. The creature was quite stationary and it often dippe
it's head into the water either feeding or amusing its self. We watche
in awe and amazement, for about 5-8mins; then suddenly it swung rou
away from the shore, and shot across the Loch at a terrific speed,
putting up a wash. All the time I could see a small dark spot, perhaps
the highest hump, perhaps the head. When it eventually came to rest I
noticed the humps had disappeared ; the back was now more or less
straightened out, but the neck and head were as before. The creature
was in full view for 14mins. I have no idea how much of the body was
underneath the water, but what we saw was a huge creature, evidently
very powerful, graceful and quite at ease on and in the water. A
thrilling experience I actually saw the Loch Ness Monster, resting,
and travelling at speed, I saw the humps, then the straightened out
back.

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Drawings and Opinions
Continued
http://www.nessie.co.uk/nessie/drawing2.html
MAS RITA TINLAYS SKETCH
This drawing was done by the
son of a Mrs Finlay from
Inverness, 1952. Mrs Finlay a
resident of Inverness, and her
small son happened to be near
the north-east shore of the Loch

near to Aldourie Pier off Tor
Point, when the monster
appeared quite literally a few
yards away in the water. She said she could of hit it with a pebble.
"I was sitting outside the caravan when i heard a continual splashing
the water. After several moments past and realising this was not the
usual wash from a boat I walked round. To my surprise I saw what I
believe to be the Loch Ness Monster. My son and I stood looking at thi
creature in amazement. Although I was terrified, we stood and watch
until it submerged, which it did very quickly causing waves to break
the shore We had an excellent view as it was so close to the shore.
skin was dark in colour and looked very tough. The neck was long and
held erect. The head was about the same width as the neck. There were
2 projections from it, each with a blob on the end. This was not a
pleasant experience. I certainly never want to see the monster again."
This drawing is of a sighting
1934.
In May 1934 Mr Alexander
Campbell, a water bailiff for
over 40 years at Loch Ness had
sighting of the monster. He was
standing at the mouth of the
EFT
30 F-
River Oich one beautiful morning in May gazing across the Loch in the
direction of Borlum Bay. His attention was drawn to a strange object
that seemed to shoot out of the calm waters almost opposite the Abb
boathouse. His description as shown in his sketch, is of a swanlike n
reaching 6ft or so above the water at its highest point, and the body,
darkish grey glistening with moisture was at least 30ft long. He gaug
this carefully in his minds eye by placing 2 ordinary rowing boats of
15ft overall length end to end, and he didn't think he was far wrong

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with size. Watching and wondering if he had time to run for his came
he heard the noise of the engines of 2 trawlers which were proceeding
down the lower basin of the Caledonian Canal, which enters the Loch
almost along side the Abbey boathouse. The animal certainly must of
heard, or sensed, the approach of these vessels too, for he saw it tur
its head in an apprehensive way, this way and that, and, apparently
being timid, it then sank rapidly out of sight, lowering the neck in d
SO and leaving a considerable disturbance on the mirror-like surface
the Loch. He said the animal would hve been some 400 yards from whe
he stood, possibly less, and he had a very clear view of it which last
several minutes.
AQUATIC FTIL LAEMCSAURUS - LI-HAT
DEVELOPMENT IN LON NICKED PLLCAJAS
+05 IN
I PREY INT-F

1700100
41■M! SE ST
TACUS PERIOD
This is a sketch of a possible ancestor
of the Loch Ness Monster an
Elasmosaurus (Plesiosaurs).
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The picture
on the right is the skeleton of a
years.
Plesiosaur, extinct for 70 million
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